Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIE-00 IOE-00 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 PA-01 PRS-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 HA-05 /090 W

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, AORG

SUBJECT: UNESCO: MASS MEDIA DRAFT DECLARATION

REF: (A) STATE 4486, (B) PARIS 27659 (1977)

- 1. PERMDEL HAS JUST OBTAINED COPY OF REVISED DRAFT DECLARATION (DATED DEC. 20, 1977) WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE IMPORTANT TO DELIBERATIONS OF INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE MEETING WHICH WAS SUBJECT OF REFTEL (A). WE DO NOT KNOW HOW WIDELY REVISED VERSION HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BUT SINCE IT WAS PASSED TO US IN CONFIDENCE, COPY SHOULD BE PROTECTED ACCORDINGLY.
- 2. TO INSURE PROMPT TRANSMITTAL, PERMDEL HAS NOT YET MADE A THOROUGH ANALYSIS AND COMPARISON WITH INITIAL TEXT (REFTEL (B) WHICH WAS BASIS FOR CLEMENT JONES SOUNDINGS WITH US MEDIA PEOPLE. NONETHELESS, WE HAVE NOTICED THAT WORD "USES" OF THE MASS MEDIA HAS DISAPPEARED FROM TITLE AND ELSEWHERE IN TEXT. SEVERAL OTHER WORDS OR PHRASES UNDERSCORED IN HARLEY COMMENTS INSCRIBED ON INITIAL DRAFT HAVE ALSO BEEN ELIMINATED, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND TEXT GENERALLY HAS BEEN TIGHTED UP.

3. JONES HAS COMMENTED TO UK COLLEAGUES AT UNESCO THAT ONLY AMERICAN MEDIA PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY UPSET BY DRAFT. SOUNDINGS IN BRITAIN HAVE INDICATED A RATHER BLAISE ATTITUDE TOWARD EXERCISE. NEITHER HAS IT GENERATED MUCH EXCITEMENT IN EITHER FRANCE OR

GERMANY. THIS REACTION, OF COURSE, COULD SIMPLY RESULT FROM LACK OF ATTENTION TO DETAIL ON PART OF THOSE CONTACTED AS 20TH GEN. CONF. IS STILL NEARLY ONE YEAR AWAY

4. VERBATIM TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: REVISED TEXT OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON FUNDA-MENTAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE MASS MEDIA TO STRENGTHENING PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO COMBATING WAR PROPAGANDA, RACISM AND APARTHEID. PREAMBLE

- 1. RECALLING THAT BY ITS CONSTITUTION THE PURPOSE OF UNESCO IS "TO CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND SECURITY BY PROMOTING COLLABORATION AMONG THE NATIONS THROUGH EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE," TO REALIZE THIS PURPOSE, THE ORGANIZATION WILL "PROMOTE THE FREE FLOW OF IDEAS BY WORD AND IMAGE."
- 2. RECALLING FURTHER THAT STATE PARTIES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO, "BELIEVING IN FULL AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION FOR ALL, IN THE UNRESTRICTED PURSUIT OF OBJECTIVE TRUTH, AND IN THE FREE E CONFIDENTIAL

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EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE, ARE AGREED AND DETERMINED TO DEVELOP AND TO INCREASE THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THEIR PEOPLES AND TO EMPLOY THESE MEANS FOR THE PURPOSES OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND A TRUER AND MORE PERFECT KNOWLEDGE OF EACH OTHER'S LIVES,"

- 3. RECALLING THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AS SPECIFIED IN THE CHARTER.
- 4. RECALLING THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1948, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1966.
- 5. RECALLING THE CONVENTION CONCERNING THE USE OF BROADCASTING IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE, ADOPTED BY THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN 1936 AND STILL IN FORCE, WHEREBY THE STATES PARTIES TO THIS CONVENTION AGREED TO REFRAIN

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FROM THE BROADCASTING OF TRANSMISSIONS WHICH ENDANGER INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY,

- 6. RECALLING ARTICLE 4 OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1965, WHEREBY STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION CONDEMN ALL PROPAGANDA AND ALL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE BASED ON IDEAS OR THEORIES OF SUPERIORITY OF ONE RACE OR GROUP OF PERSONS OF ONE COLOR OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, OR WHICH ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY OR PROMOTE RACIAL HATRED AND DISCRIMINATION IN ANY FORM, AND UNDERTAKE TO ADOPT IMMEDIATE AND POSITIVE MEASURES DESIGNED TO ERADICATE ALL INCITEMENT TO, OR ACTS OF SUCH DISCRIMINATION,
- 7. RECALLING THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF APARTHEID, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1974, WHEREBY THE STATES PARTIES TO THIS CONVENTION AGREED TO PREVENT ANY ENCOURAGEMENT OF APARTHEID AND SIMILAR SEGREGATIONIST POLICIES OR THEIR MANIFESTATIONS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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TO PUNISH PERSONS GUILTY OF THAT CRIME,

- 8. RECALLING THE DECLARATION ON THE PROMOTION AMONG YOUTH OF THE IDEALS OF PEACE, MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PEOPLES, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1965, EMPHASIZING THAT YOUNG PEOPLE PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN EVERY FIELD OF HUMAN ENDEAVOUR AND THAT THEY ARE DESTINED TO GUIDE THE FORTUNES OF MANKIND.
- 9. RECALLING THE DECLARATION AND A PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1974, AS REGARDS A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, THROUGH WHICH IT IS HOPED TO CREATE A NEW SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WHICH MAY HELP TO STRENGTHEN DECISIVELY PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING,
- 10. RECALLING THE DECLARATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO IN 1966,
- 11. RECALLING RESOLUTION 110 (II) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADOPTED IN 1947, CONDEMNING ALL FORMS OF PROPAGANDA WHICH ARE DESIGNED OR LIKELY TO PROVOKE OR ENCOURAGE ANY THREAT TO THE PEACE, BREACH OF THE PEACE, OR ACT OF AGGRESSION, AS WELL AS RESOLUTION 127 (II) OF THE SAME ASSEMBLY, REQUESTING THE MEMBER STATES TO COMBAT, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES, THE DIFFUSION OF FALSE OR DISTORTED REPORTS LIKELY TO INJURE FRIENDLY CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES.

- 12. RECALLING THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIALISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION,
- 13. RECALLING RESOLUTION (LEFT BLANK) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADOPTED IN 1977, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR DISSEMINATION OF OBJECTIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND OTHER FIELDS OF ALL COUNTRIES AND THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MASS MEDIA IN THIS RESPECT, THUS CONTRIBUTING TO THE

STRENGTHENING OF TRUST AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS AMONG STATES.

14. RECALLING RESOLUTION 9.12 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO IN 1968, REITERATING THE ORGANIZATION'S OBJECTIVE TO HELP TO ERADICATE COLONIALISM AND RACIALISM, AS WELL AS RESOLUTION 12.1 ADOPTED BY THE GEN. CONF. OF UNESCO IN 1976, STATING THAT COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND RACISM IN ANY FORM AND OF ANY TYPE ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES OF UNESCO,

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15. RECALLING RESOLUTION 4.301 ADOPTED BY THE GEN. CONF. OF UNESCO IN 1970, DEEMING THAT THE MASS MEDIA SHOULD PLAY AN IMPORT ANT PART IN FURTHERING INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE AND HUMAN WELFARE, AND INVITING ALL MEMBER STATES TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENCOURAGE THE MASS MEDIA TO COMBAT PROPAGANDA ON BEHALF OF WAR, RACISM AND HATRED AMONG NATIONS,

16. NOTING THE RESULTS ACHIEVED IN INTERNATIONAL DETENTE AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROCESS MADE BY THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE.

17. PROCLAIMS ON THIS DAY OF 1978 THIS
DECLARATION ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING
THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE MASS MEDIA TO STRENGTHENING
PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING
AND TO COMBATING WAR PROPAGANDA, RACISM AND
APARTHEID

ARTICLE I:

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- 1. THE MASS MEDIA HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN REIN-FORCING PEACE BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE REALIZATION OF THE PRINCIPLES GUIDING RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR POLITICAL, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL SYSTEMS, THEREBY FOSTERING A CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE AND RESPECT AMONG PEOPLES, CONSONANT WITH THE DUTY OF THE STATES TO REFRAIN FROM PROPAGANDA FOR WARS OF AGGRESSION OR FOR ANY THREAT OR USE OF FORCE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS.
- 2. A PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY THEREFORE RESTS UPON THE MASS MEDIA FOR SUPPORTING PEACE AND REINFORCING INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, ACTING IN FULL ACCORD WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND IN A SPIRIT OF RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF ALL STATES, PEOPLES AND INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT DISTINCTION AS TO RACE, SEX, LANGUAGE, NATIONALITY, RELIGION OR PHILOSOPHICAL CONVICTION.
- 3. IT IS ALSO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MASS MEDIA TO AVOID ANY JUSTIFICATION OR ENCOURAGEMENT OF WAR, VIOLENCE, APARTHEID AND OTHER FORMS OF NATIONAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HATRED OR DISCRIMINATION, AS WELL AS ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM AND NEOCOLONIALISM, AND TO EXPOSE PROPAGANDA FOR THESE EVILS THUS CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR ELIMINATION.

ARTICLE II:

1. IT BEING RECOGNIZED THAT FREEDOM OF OPINION, EXPRESSION AND INFORMATION BELONG TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, THE STRENGTHENING OF PEACE

AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING REQUIRES THAT THERE BE FREE AND BALANCED INTERCHANGE OF ACCURATE, COMPREHENSIVE AND OBJECTIVE INFORMATION THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA.

2. THE EXERCISE OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
PLACES A DUTY AND A RESPONSIBILITY UPON THOSE WHO
DETERMINE THE POLICIES OF THE MASS MEDIA TO
ENSURE THE FLOW OF TRUE AND HONEST INFORMATION TO
ALL PEOPLES. FURTHERMORE, IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE
PEOPLE TO ASCERTAIN FACTS AND APPRAISE EVENTS
OBJECTIVELY, THERE NEEDS TO BE PUBLIC ACCESS TO
SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION BY THE
PUBLIC IN ITS WIDER DISSEMINATION.

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIE-00 IOE-00 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 PA-01 PRS-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 HA-05 BIB-01 /091 W

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ARTICLE III:

AS A MEANS OF CONTRIBUTING EFFECTIVELY TO THE STRENGTH-ENING OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE MASS MEDIA MAKE WIDELY KNOWN THE OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES WHICH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, CONSTITUTE THE BASIS OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

ARTICLE IV:

1. TO CREATE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE AND FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO CORRECT IMBALANCES, QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE, IN THE FLOW OF INFORMATION TO, FROM AND BETWEEN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO MAKE THE BALANCED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION A REALITY FOR THE WHOLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS A DUTY TO ENCOURAGE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ESTABLISHMENT AND FURTHERING OF THE MASS MEDIA INCLUDING NEWS AND PRESS AGENCIES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND IN SO DOING PROMOTE COOPERATION AMONG THEM, AND BETWEEN THEM AND THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

2. AMONG ALL COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY BETWEEN THOSE HAVING DIFFERENT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS, IT IS SIMILARLY ESSENTIAL THAT STATES ENCOURAGE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL EXCHANGES AMONG THE MASS MEDIA, ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS, MUTUAL ADVANTAGE, NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S AFFAIRS, AND RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY INCLUDING THE RIGHTS OF COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THEIR NATIONAL CULTURES, WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE DIFFERENCES EXISTING AMONG THOSE CULTURES AS A PART OF THE COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND.

ARTICLE V:

THE INTERNATIONAL NATURE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF NEWS AND PRESS AGENCIES AS WELL AS OF RADIO AND TELEVISION ORGANIZATIONS, WHETHER PRIVATELY OR GOVERNMENTALLY OWNED, PLACES UPON THEM A PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THIS DECLARATION.

ARTICLE VI:

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE MASS MEDIA CONTRIBUTE TO THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE, JUSTICE, FREEDOM, MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING IN ORDER TO PROMOTE EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL HUMAN BEINGS AND ALL NATIONS, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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PROGRESS, DISARMAMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT THE MASS MEDIA ENSURE THAT THE VIEWS AND ASPIRATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ARE GIVEN ADEQUATE EXPRESSION.

ARTICLE VII:

THE VOICES OF THOSE STRUGGLING AGAINST APARTHEID AND OTHER FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM AND FOREIGN OCCUPATION, AND UNABLE TO BE HEARD WITHIN THEIR OWN TERRITORY, NEED TO BE GIVEN EXPRESSION THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA OF OTHER COUNTRIES, WITH DUE RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE HOST COUNTRIES, THEIR LEGAL SYSTEMS, AND RELEVANT DOMESTIC LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE VIII:

WHENEVER STATES, INSTITUTIONS OR INDIVIDUALS CONSIDER THAT THE PUBLICATION OR DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION HAS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED THEIR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING OR TO COMBAT WAR PROPAGANDA, VIOLENCE, APARTHEID AND OTHER FORMS OF NATIONAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HATRED OR DISCRIMINATION, AS WELL AS ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM, THEY OUGHT TO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECTIFY ERRONEOUS INFORMATION OR THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING THEIR OWN VERSION KNOWN THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA.

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ARTICLE IX:

- 1. JOURNALISTS AND OTHER CREATIVE MEDIA PRACTITIONERS, THEIR PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AS WELL AS ALL WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THEIR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, IN ORDER TO FULFIL THEIR PARTICULAR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, HAVE A DUTY TO HELP TO ENSURE THAT THE MASS MEDIA OBSERVE THE PRINCIPLES OF THIS DECLARATION. FOR THAT PURPOSE, SPECIAL EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THESE PRINCIPLES IN CODES OF CONDUCT DRAWN UP BY THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.
- 2. IT IS INCUMBENT UPON STATES TO ENSURE THAT, SUBJECT TO THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE COUNTRY, JOURNALISTS AND OTHER CREATIVE MEDIA PRACTITIONERS, WORKING IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THIS DECLARATION WHETHER IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES OR ABROAD, ARE GIVEN A STATUS WHICH PROVIDES THEM WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE WORKING CONDITIONS AND PROTECTS THEM IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR PROFESSION ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED NORMS

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ARTICLE X:

IT IS INCUMBENT UPON STATES, SUBJECT TO ADEQUATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, AND CONSISTENT WITH THE RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND AGREEMENTS, TO FACILITATE THE OBSERVANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THIS DECLARATION BY THE MASS MEDIA, SO AS TO ENCOURAGE THE FREER AND WIDER DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO STRENGTHEN PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO COMBAT WAR PROPAGANDA, RACISM AND APARTHEID.

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